The Orthodox Herald

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"Celebrating our 49th year" 1952-2000

Volume 49, No. 1 ISSUE 576 **MAY 2000**

WOMEN IN THE CHURCH

Much has been said in recent years concerning the role of women in the Church. some women of various faiths have felt that men have overshadowed the importance of women and the work they do in the Church. Whenever I hear these comments, I usually think of my babas and the women of their generation.

The early years of the Church in America saw young immigrants starting lives anew and often establishing churches. Funds were needed to build and maintain the churches, so events were regularly held to raise money. The most common of these were parish banquets. Preparations began several days in advance, with some women even cooking at home and then bringing the food to church. The day of the banquet meant cooking, serving, and clean-up, but there was more. Banquets were not only a means of fund-raising, but also a time to socialize. These were people who had left their families in the old country and now found companionship with their new church family.

Speaking of cooking, it was the women who rose in the wee hours of the morning to pare potatoes to make pieroghis. But long hours spent cooking, rolling, and pinching paid off as churches were built from the profits made.

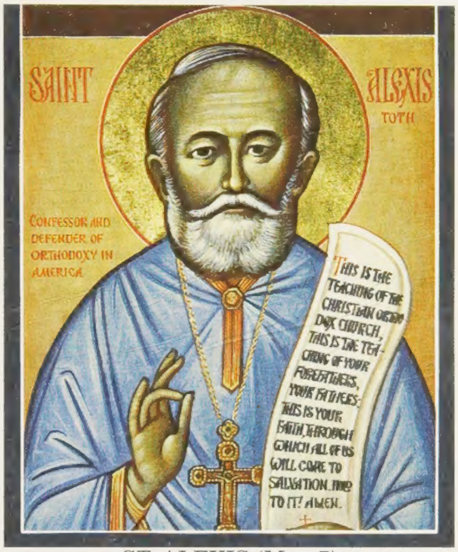
Women didn't need special titles to do the jobs expected of them as Orthodox Christians. I can still picture my babas in their Sunday dresses as they prepared to visit someone in the hospital. They didn't need to be called "lay ministers" to know that visiting the sick was their duty.

It was also women who usually made certain that the church was well kept. Before Pascha, all the women helped to clean the church. They then adorned the Iconstas with the crepe-paper flowers that they had made during Great Lent.

The spiritual education of children has usually been left to mothers, so it was natural that women assumed the roles of teachers when Sunday Schools were first organized.

During the darkest days of our church,

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ST. ALEXIS (May 7)

It has been five years since Fr. Alexis Toth was recognized as a saint. He was instrumental for many people returning to the Orthodox faith here and in Europe. He was known as the "Batko/Father of Orthodoxy in America."

He was born in1854 in the area then part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. His father and brother were priests and his uncle was the bishop of Presov. After receiving his theological education, he married prior to ordination in 1877. Unfortunately, his wife and infant daughter died in the following year. For the next ten years he served as chancellor for the bishop and taught at the seminary in Presov.

In 1889, Fr. Alexis, along with seven other Uniate priests, arrived in the USA for mission work. Fr. Alexis headed for Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he was assigned to St. Mary's Parish. He reported to the Roman Catholic bishop who had jurisdiction over the parish; and for various reasons, he was refused the faculties to care for the parish. After discussion with the parish, it was decided to petition the only Orthodox bishop in America, Bishop Vladimir in San Francisco.

Fr. Alexis's acceptance of Orthodoxy in San Francisco was very dramatic. He was familiar with the Orthodox Church

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A GODLY MOTHER

On May 14 we celebrate Mother's Day. On the Church Calendar this day is dedicated to the Myrrhbearing women. We read about them in the gospel for the day: Mark 15:43-16:8. They had seen the stone which covered the entrance of the grave, but they had a job to do – to anoint the body of Jesus – so they set out with only their faith and the knowledge that something must be done and trusted that something would occur that would enable them to do what had to be done. On the way to the grave, out of their own money, they bought the necessary items, including spices, so that they could anoint Him. When they arrived at the tomb they were surprised to see that the stone was rolled away. We can draw many inferences from the reading, but the parallel with mothers cannot be overlooked. She sees a need. No matter how impossible it looks, she buys and does whatever is necessary to do the "right" thing.

There are many more places in the Bible where we can find the qualities of a godly mother mentioned. In Exodus 2:2; 1 Samuel 1:12; Proverbs 31:11 we are told that she possesses a sense of spiritual values: faith, courage, prayer, wisdom, joy, trustworthiness, dedication, kindness and is God-fearing.

In Proverbs 31:12-27; Psalm 78:4-5; Isaiah 66:13; Matthew 15:4; and Luke 2:19 we are given her active qualities: keeps her house in good order, does good, comforts, disciplines (puts up the STOP SIGN when needed), reflects on God's Word.

These will result in lasting impressions on those in her home. Her children will bless her, every day, not only on Mother's Day. Her husband will realize what a treasure he has.

Remember, if you are a mother, that there should be no loose links in your relationship. Unless YOU have traveled the road to Calvary, accepted the crucified and Resurrected Saviour, and daily acknowledge Him as your Lord, your children can hardly be expected to do so. Hold your life

(Continued on Page 3 Col. 3)

THE ORTHODOX HERALD
(USPS 600-140)
(ISSN 0744-1495)
Published monthly by
The Orthodox Herald, Inc.
Transjurisdictional Publication
Special non-profit rate
Entered as Periodical-Class Mail at
Hunlock Creek, PA 18621 and Mahanoy
City, PA 17948 an additional mailing office.
Founders and Editors: V. Rev. W. Basil
Stroyen, M.A., Ph.D., D.D. and Nina Bohush
Stroyen, R.N., D.D., D. Litt
Phone 570-256-7232
Annual Subscription $7.00 a year.
$12.00 for two years.
Packet Plan Rate on Request
Address all correspondence to:
P.O. Box 9
Hunlock Creek, PA 18621-0009
Contributions are tax deductible
Published since 1952

CHRONOLOGY

MAY 2000

DIED: Deacon George Virosteck, Parma, OH
Matushka Mary Borichevsky, widow of Fr. Vladimir, So. Canaan, PA
Matushka Anna Rusyn, widow of Fr. John, in Gary, IN
Matushka Dcn. Gloria Pasko, wife of Dcn. Stefan, in Buckner, IL

RETIRED PRIESTS AND THEIR PRESVYTERES and widowed presvyteres will be forgiven the registration fee at the July Clergy-Laity meeting in Philadelphia. They will be guests at a Breakfast/Meeting organized and paid for by the Archdiocese (Greek). They participate at the meeting and are held in a place honor.

THREE ORTHODOX were among the "major achievers (in Britain) of this century." Honored at a luncheon at which Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh were present was Metropolitan Anthony (Bloom) in his capacity as head of the Russian Orthodox Patriarchal Church in Great Britain, Stelios Haji-ioannou as managing director of EasyJet, the "walk-on" airline, and Professor John Tavener as a composer of Orthodox music.

A LARGE CHURCH DEDICATED TO THE DORMITION of the Mother of God is located in the resort of Pamporovo in Bulgaria. The spot was chosen by the clairvoyant Vanga. It took five years to build the church. The 6 bells came from Moscow, the church fittings from Thessaloniki and the chandeliers from the state residences.

THE FIFTEENTH WOMEN'S MONASTERY has been established in Belorussia. Named in honor of martyr Grand Princess Elizabeth, it is located near the capitol. The sisters (nuns) have been working for the past three years in a nearby psychoneurological clinic.

A LARGE PYSANKA EGG, weighing over 32,000 lbs., is located in Vegreville in the western Canadian province of Alberta. The aluminum egg is over 25 feet long and 18 feet wide. The giant sized egg was computer-designed and stands on a 31-foot pedestal.

QUEEN BEATRIX OF THE NETHERLANDS visited Rila Monastery in Bulgaria. She lit candles before the relics of St. John of Rila and donated 35,000 lbs., the equivalent of $50,000 to the monastery for repairs and the installation of an alarm system.

TWENTY-THREE Orthodox martyrs of the first half of the 20th century in Belorussia have been recognized as saints. The archives of the KGB were examined for over 5 years to obtain necessary information. They have been added to the church calendar on October 28.

A DESIGNATED GIFT to St. Tikhon's Monastery Cemetery was made by Fr. and Matushka Michael Romanchak. Grave stones were repaired, cleaned and restored. Six stones were beyond repair and were replaced. This thanksgiving gift was in honor of the monastics, clergy and matushki, who no longer have anyone to care for their resting places. The deceased members of the Romanchak and Knapp families are remembered.

AN INDEPENDENT RUSSIAN PUBLIC OPINION POLL has shown that 60.1% of Russians are believers, 26.9% are non-believers, 4.4% are atheists and 8.6% found question difficult to answer.

THE EAGLE RIVER INSTITUTE of Orthodox Christian Studies will be held from August 1-5 in Eagle River, Alaska. For info write PO Box 1108, Eagle River, AK 99577.

THE FIRST JOINT RETREAT was held by Holy Cross and St. Vladimir Seminaries. The theme was information technology and its potential for theological education. These technologies offer the possibility of Orthodox theological education on a global scale. Both seminaries received $10,000 in planning grants from the Lilly Foundations. The schools will collaborate to integrate information technologies in teaching and learning.

A 2000 ALASKA MISSION TEAM is being sponsored by OCMC, PO Box 4319, St. Augustine, FL 32085 or call 904-829-5132. The team will offer a living witness to communities on the Upper Kuskokwim River, including Kalsag, Anian, Chauthbaluk, Crooked Creek, Sleetmute and Stony River. Members will participate in youth work, evangelizing, and adult catechism.

IN INDONESIA the Orthodox Church was given legal status in 1991. In 1996 Metropolitan Nikitas was assigned and has ordained nine indigenous priests who serve over 1000 Orthodox in Indonesia, the islands of Java, Bali and Sumatra. The faithful are being persecuted by the Muslim majority.

FR. NICHOLAS LASSIOS was the founder of Holy Cross Prison Ministry, which served inmates and their families for 15 years in various New York, Connecticut and New Jersey institutions. He introduced a home study course for inmates to help them earn a certificate in Orthodox Christian studies. Eternal memory to Fr. Nicholas, who died in February.

METROPOLITAN PHILIP of the Antiochian Archdiocese suffered a heart attack on January 29. His brother Shaheed recently fell asleep in the Lord.

THE ORTHODOX COMMUNITY AT THE AIR FORCE ACADEMY celebrated its 40th anniversary with the blessing of an Altar, Table of Oblation and Icon stands. At the dedication it was said that the Orthodox community has given much to the nation. Lance Sijan, a 1965 Academy graduate, was the first and to this time the only graduate to receive the Medal of Honor. He is a Vietnam War hero and a faithful Orthodox. The first Orthodox priests to serve the Orthodox at the academy were Fr. Fedec and Chaplain Kiryliuk.

•Women in the church

women came forward to offer their invaluable help. In 1932 a church banquet provided a humble start in paying off mounting debts. Women, no doubt, searched their own near-empty cupboards and bought ingredients "on the book" to donate whatever they could to save their church from being sold.

Again in the 1960s, when a series of misfortunes occurred, the women banned together and built up an empty treasury through countless pieroghi sales. In both cases, they thought nothing of the long hours and backbreaking work because it was for their church.

The valuable contributions women have made in our parishes cannot be discounted. Nurturers, teachers, fund-raisers, and spiritual supports – all women who have worked tirelessly for the Church and quietly left their mark on Orthodoxy in America.

Margaret Pysarchyk

•St. Alexis (May 7)

because of his studies. He returned to Minneapolis and spoke to the people about the differences between two churches and several times gave them time to discuss and reflect on the change. They decided to accept Orthodoxy. Bishop Vladimir visited the parish, gave more instructions and time to think about the possible change, and then accepted 386 people into the faith. Understandably, there was much turmoil and the financial situation was poor. Fr. Alexis went to work in a bakery to sustain himself.

Things settled down in Minneapolis; but after information about the situation reached the northeast United States, where many immigrants had settled, they wanted a solution of jurisdiction in the parishes they had organized.

Fr. Alexis arrived in Wilkes-Barre, PA on March 3, 1893. For the next 16 years he traveled by horse and buggy over many dusty, muddy roads in his mission efforts. He is credited with starting between 15-20 parishes and bringing many other parishes into the Orthodox Church. He received many death threats; and it was necessary for him to have bodyguards, who were called his "eagles."

His work extended beyond educating about the faith. He was disturbed by the plight of the miners' widows and orphans. There was no welfare, no insurance, and since they often lived in company houses, they had to vacate them upon the death of the miner. He organized an insurance lodge in 1895. ROCMAS is still headquartered in Wilkes-Barre.

Some miners returned to their home villages in Europe. They carried zeal for their religion with them. Aided by the booklet "Why I Am Orthodox," written by Fr. Alexis, many returned to the Orthodox faith. They suffered discrimination and arrest but they retained their zeal. The booklet was recently reprinted and is circulated in the Carpathian region.

Fr. Alexis' work was recognized as far away as Russia. He continued his missionary work with zeal until his untimely death in 1909.

He was buried at St. Tikhon Monastery in So. Canaan, PA in an elaborate marble tomb financed by nickels and dimes of the many mourners. His remains are now in a reliquary near the ikonostas on the left side of the church at St. Tikhon's Monastery.

Both of the parishes which he served are now classified as cathedrals. St. Mary's in Minneapolis, MN is the largest parish in the OCA. Fr. Myron D. Manzuk has recently been assigned as pastor. He is assisted by 2 priests, 6 deacons, a choir director, and an administrative staff. Minneapolis was home to the first Orthodox seminary in America. It has been in the forefront for many other activities which are not well known because of its isolation from the hubs of Orthodoxy.

Please hear our prayers St. Alexis and let us not rest from our mission efforts!

An acafist (prayer service) was written for St. Alexis and an ikon was commissioned. From the Acafist:

KONDAK

"O chosen defender and confessor of the faith Father Alexis, we offer this song of praise honoring your struggles, patience and great suffering through which you were revealed as a man of God leading your people back to the true faith. And as you have boldness in prayer to God free us your children from every adversity, that we may cry out to you:

'Rejoice, O Father Alexis
Defender and Confessor of
Orthodoxy in America.'"

* * * * * *

Recently a great physicist managed to take a photograph of the atoms present in a single crystal of metal at the tip of a platinum needle. Magnified 750,000 times it looks like a cross.

•New Saint Recognized

After his consecration as bishop, he ceaselessly traveled throughout the U.S. caring for the Syrian-Arab communities.

He was buried in Brooklyn, but his body was recently reinterred at Antiochian Village in Bolivar, PA, near Pittsburgh.

There are questions on why this ceremony is taking place at St. Tikhon's Monastery. Bishop Raphael was present when the monastery was being dedicated. He was with the "Russian" bishop, the only one in this country at this time.

•A Godly Mother

before the white Light of Christ every day. Clean out your spiritual wardrobe frequently. Place persons before things as did the Myrrhbearing Women. Be an Example!

IS EASTER/PASCHA OVER?

Easter is never over, because every Sunday or Voskreseniye, is a miniature Easter of Christian faith. An unexpected snowstorm, a pouring rainstorm, or the absence of growing flowers cannot change the eternal Easter of the truly Christian heart. The first disciples of the Crucified Lord had much more to concern them than the weather. Their Leader had been taken from them. How could they go on? Now it was dangerous to admit that they had been His followers. Even Peter had denied companionship with oaths.

But that first Easter morn was not the end, and even they, frightened, fearful, inadequate as they knew themselves to be, were to carry on His Gospel. This is the miracle of Easter. God's ways are not always man's way as the stranger told the Two Disciples as they trudged along that Emmaus Road. (Luke 24:13-32). His Kingdom was not of this world. Christ's work would go on in their hands. And it did!

Think of every Sunday as an eternal witness to the Easter/Pascha faith. Add your own visible witness and presence to the worship of God wherever you are. The Easter faith is your own most valuable Christian possession. Easter faith is never over. Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

LIGHT MOMENT

The doctor's waiting room was packed with an unusually large number of patients. After two hours of waiting and waiting, an elderly lady went to the appointment desk and said: "Tell the doctor I went home to die a natural death!"

ETHNIC CHUCKLE

Dorohaya Tyota Mareea,

Yak tam kolo vas?

Too uh nas now shitko OK no yah mala takee scary situation zhe, yah dumala zheh yah ushee dostanyu heart attack. Tak peeshlo. Me next door neighbor pok-likala me na telephone ee zvedala me chee yah be so kind as to take a bus trip to New York "as we need to fill the seats." Yah kashyu yeh OK if ohna me not leave boh yah never been to New York. Ohna duma long time when povela me alright Yah zaplateelaya hroshee ee me peeshlee na trip.

First, me peeshlee shopping. No yakto me next door neighbor ee yeh dear friends ee yah got separated. Yah hlyahdala ee hlyahdala no neh find them. Yah neh znala yak find halluy. Yah bulla taka scared yah neznala shto robitee. Yah taka panickovala zhe yah zabula name of show and hall.

Yah peshla nah vonka. Na sidewalkee yah shtopuyyuh people. Asking: "Mr. chee Mrs. where is hall for show. Ohnee me nech neh kazhut. Yah became frantic. Yah neh znah yak yehm povestee me message. Then came to me idea! Yah kazhu "Mr. che Mrs. You know dance hall." ee yah started to do small dance tam nah sidewalku. Yah dostala takee action. Oden cheloveek me kaskey: "You crazy lady." Druhee mladee me doll dolyara uh hand ee kazhe: "You remind me of my poor mother. Go get yourself another beer." Two zhenee povee: "Isn't it a shame. She doesn't look the type. You never can tell." Yah dumam zhe yah scrazuyu. Yah taka nervous yah danc-ing faster ee faster ee kretchyu; "Dance hall, dance hall."

Policeman preshol ee kazhe ludyam around me: "Keep moving." Ohn take me zah elbow ee kazhe: "What's wrong mama?" Yah taka glad to see him. Yah started to plakatee ee poveela yehmyu me story. Ohn kazhee: "I think you're looking for Radio City Music Hall it's two blocks straight ahead."

Yah tam nashla me group ah me neigh-bor said: "Ann, we missed you. What hap-pened to you? Were you delayed by the dis-turbance two blocks from here? We could-n't see what was happening there were too many people."

Yah yeh answered: "I had very different experience. I'll never forget it.

Learned a lesson, never travel without ticket.

Christos Voskres!

Budthey Zdrovee,
Hanya

RESTORE FELLOWSHIP

On the Thursday of Bright Week, May 4, we read from Acts 2:38-43 in which the greatest characteristics of the early Christians is discussed. This was not wealth; most of them were poor. They were not marked by their learning; they were mostly uneducated. They were not charac-terized by their social status; most of them were members of the working class.

The thing that most universally charac-terized those early followers of Jesus was their fellowship. Pentecost had separated them into a church and bound them together into an unbreakable fellowship.

Their fellowship was one of suffering. Nothing happened easily for them. Just about every footprint in the book of Acts was stained with blood.

Their fellowship was one of prayer. They advanced on their knees. Prayers and its importance and power is mentioned 29 times in the book of Acts alone. And their fellowship was one of love. They cared so deeply about one another that they literal-ly loved their neighbor as themselves. They provided for the widows and the orphans. They fed the hungry. They clothed the shivering.

They were so different from those around them that they were looked upon as a different race of people. They were above all, fellowship. One of the greatest needs within the church today is a restora-tion of that kind of fellowship.

NEW SAINT RECOGNIZED

Bishop Raphael (Hawaweeny) will be recognized as a saint on May 29 at St. Tikhon's Monastery during the annual pil-grimage. He was born in Damascus, Syria in 1860 and died in Brooklyn, NY in 1915. He was consecrated a bishop by St. Tikhon (Bellavin) for the Syrian-Arab communi-ties. He was the first Orthodox bishop con-secrated in America. At this time there was only one Orthodox jurisdiction. The Russian Orthodox Church had under its amophor all the different ethnic communi-ties.

Bishop Raphael was an extremely well-educated and dedicated person. He gradu-ated from lower schools in Syria and was sent to Halki (Greek) Seminary for his higher education. He followed this with studies at the Kiev Academy and was later on staff at the Kazan Academy in Russia. His fiery sermons and writings inspired hope and courage but created problems for him with his superiors.

(Continued on Page 3 Col. 3)

Dabs of Thoughts

St. John Chrysostom in his "Homilies on Romans" wrote: "Let us with all kindness receive the Mother of all blessings: faith; that sailing as it were in a still harbor, we may at once keep our doctrines, orthodox, and by steering our life safely in a straight course, may attain those eternal blessings by the grace and love towards man of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Find the good – and praise it.

We give witness of our religious faith in various ways, by attending church, by observing religious rituals, by wearing religious symbols and displaying them in our homes and in our cars and by reading religious literature. Some of these are ingrained in our very being and others we perform automatically. On one occasion, a young woman entered a bus, dropped a coin in the box, blessed herself, and took her seat.

These practices have their importance. They give public evidence of our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. They serve as inspiration to others to emulate us. They proclaim to others that there is a divinity, which has created the universe and to Whom we are responsible.

Too much time online makes people more likely to go offline in real life. A study found that too much time on the Internet makes people reclusive and less likely to interact with people face to face.

In Acts 3 we read that Jesus denounced abuses in the Temple but He did not repu-diate the Temple Services.

Why don't people make more use of the marvelous power there is in kindness? It is the greatest lever to move the hearts of people that the world has ever known – greater by far than anything that mere ingenuity can devise or subtlety suggest. Kindness in the kingpin of success in life. It is the prime factor in overcoming fric-tion and make the human machinery run smoothly.

It is sad to see so many enter the church and fail to venerate the holy icons. It betrays either a lack of spiritual education or a complete misunderstanding of the teachings of the Church regarding the holy icons.



EDITORS' NOTES

Have you noticed the difference in the music in the Church during this Pascha/Easter season? It's joyful, it's spirited, it's hopeful, it's inspiring. For Christ is risen from the dead and He assures us of the same!

We have a special spot in our hearts for the veterans who have diligently served our country. As time marches on, one better understands the true meaning of the "Citizen Soldier," who was willing to put his life on the line for principles he believed in. On Memorial Day we should spend at least a few moments reflecting on our nation's fallen.

We watched a video A Triumph of Faith. It was one of the most inspiring ones we have ever seen. It tells the story of an annual pilgrimage of over 100 miles which Orthodox in Russia make every year. It has been going on for decades. People of every age walk along pathways, taking only a specified time to rest and eat as they go from village to village. They pray daily in churches or in shells of churches which were destroyed. What dedication! What faith! It can be ordered from Artistic License, PO Box 19407, Sacramento, CA 95819-0407. We will lend our copy for your group, if you promise to return it!

We are always reminded not to even give a hint of impropriety. We are dismayed and confused about several events we have heard about concerning Orthodox hierarchs serving with hierarchs of other churches. One bishop prayed and gave a sermon at a Roman Catholic Church – this is to be reciprocated. Another served vespers at the altar with an Eastern Catholic bishop. The third presided at a service at the chapel of an Eastern Catholic seminary and at an earlier date exchanged the kiss of peace at a liturgy. Where does this leave the average priest or faithful? Must we discard the guidelines we have followed for so long? Since all of these bishops belong to SCOBA why isn't this important matter discussed at their next meeting? Is the Orthodox ship rudderless?

The tour of the Carpatho-Russian lands will take place from 7-18 Sept. and the cost will be about $2000. Please call for details 570/256-7232 only if you are really interested.

Several years ago, we offered 27 cassettes for $130 for recordings each Sunday of the liturgical year. These contain a gospel reading, a message, Bible study in English; awesome, and fantastic Russian Church choirs and choruses. Perfect for those who can't get to the church services or who miss Church Slavonic singing.

This begins our 49th year of continuous monthly publication since 1952.

The Stroyens

PRESS FUND

Thank you/Spasebo for helping us to continue the message of hope in the knowledge that: "Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen! And to us He has given Eternal life!"

Irene Pacak, S. Pachowka, Bill & Betty Hryvko, Annie Bryniak, Alexander & Linda Posezniak, Sophia Pachowka, Greg Mazur, Anonymous, Mary Kochmaruk, **Fr. Joseph P. Kreta,** Paul Horoschak, Olga Sorensen, Andrew Fitzgerald, Mrs. N.J. Boruck, John Holovach, **Helen Lesko,** George Popovich, **Val & Agnes Fryntzko,** Mary Smereka, Katherine Fallat, Thomas Broslawik, Mary Kollar, Ethel Watlock, Anna Tanchak, Helen Kotter, Margaret Starr, M/M Andrew Fedetz, Catherine Shaffchick, **Anne Dorozynski,** Anna P. Kosct, **Anna Wentovich,** Catherine Haley. **Matushka Jean Chromiak** in memory of Fr. John Chromiak. Helen Riley Lenten and Pascha/Easter Donation. Gloria Lee Wheeler for candles for blessings for us and other Orthodox Christians. Helen Buchowsky, Anna Urban and Tiller Porter in memory of Julia Blisak. Helen Nickolaou prayers for health and welfare of her family. Walter & Mary Malish in memory of Walter Slanta and Al Pelat of Cleveland. Krayanka Anna Tanchak for health of Fr. Basil and Matushka Nina. Mary Lizak in memory of husband Stephen. **Paul and Marion Stenko** in memory of Uncle Jack and Aunt Olga. Rev. and Mrs. Peter Staviski in memory of her mother Mary Fedorchak. **Dcn. Stefan Pasko,** daughter Michele and grandchildren Matthew, Zachary and Jacob in memory of Matushka (Dcn.) Gloria Pasko. Fr. Basil and Matushka Stroyen best wishes to **Alex Bohush and Laura Soloman** on their marriage. In memory of Job. The Stroyens in memory of their phone pal **Andrew Smarsh.**

* * * * * *

Eighty percent of Americans claim to believe in a personal God but only 46 percent admit going "often" to Church.



In 1983 during the Soviet Years, Darra Goldstein wrote a cookbook A La Russe. She has updated the book to reflect the changes in availability of certain food products. There is an informative introduction and information before each of the seven chapters. I have selected Hazelnut Rusks or Suhare from the book. Good to make ahead of time to enjoy with a glass of lemonade.

The way the rusks are dried reminds me of a practice which was common in Poland many years ago. The priests went to different villages to bless the Easter food. They were given something to take with them. Many times they had many pascha breads/kuliches. They were cut into rusks and dried for later use. Nowadays if we would be so fortunate as to have too many breads, we freeze them.

Hazelnut Rusks

2 eggs
3/4 cup sugar
1 cup all-purpose flour
1 1/2 cups hazelnuts, coarsely chopped

Beat the eggs and the sugar until light and fluffy. Dredge the nuts with flour; blend them into the egg mixture. Preheat the oven to 300° F. Grease an 8-inch (bread) loaf pan. Pour the batter into the pan and bake 300° F. for 50 minutes. Turn the loaf out of the pan and wrap it in a moist dish towel. Let the loaf stand for 4 hours. Then cut it into slices about 1/3 inch thick.

Preheat the oven to 250° F. Place the slices on a cookie sheet and bake until lightly browned and crisp, about 3 hours. Yield 2 dozen.

(To order the book, send $20 to Russian Life Books, 89 Main St., Ste. 2, Montpelier, VT 05602.

* * * * * *

NO GARBAGE DISPOSAL

In describing one of the new movies, a critic wrote: "The plot moves rapidly down the sewer." It would not be so damaging to those who watch such trash if the mind could be equipped with a garbage disposal. Then you could flush away the filth and be done with it, but the mind does not work that way. It stores up impressions for a lifetime. The only way to protect it is to expose it only to the best.

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The Orthodox Herald
Fr. Stroyen, Ph.D., Editor
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MOTHER'S DAY PRAYER

Second Sunday in May

O holy God, through the prophet Moses, You gave us a command to honor our mothers, and later sanctified motherhood through the incarnation of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Pour forth Your loving kindness upon all mothers of this day granting them good health, long and happy lives, and salvation; we pray to You, O Lord: Hear us and have mercy.

O Merciful Father, accept the prayers that we offer You in behalf of the mothers of our parish, whether they are young, in their middle years or in the prime of their lives. Strengthen the love they have for You, their families and children; we pray to You, O Lord: Hear us and have mercy.

O Father of lights, every good and perfect gift comes down from You. Bless all expectant mothers, and grant health and safety to their children who are about to be born. Surround them with Your holy angels to keep them free from all sickness and harm; we pray to You, O Lord: Hear us and have mercy.

We also pray for the repose of the souls of the handmaidens of God, all our deceased mothers, grandmothers, relatives, friends and all who have fell asleep in the Lord before us. Grant them rest in the bosom of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and number them among the just; we pray to You, O Lord: Hear us and have mercy.

(Raymond Mastroberte)

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We do great injustice to Judas Iscariot, in thinking him wicked above all wickedness. He was only a common money-lover, and like all money-lovers, did not understand Christ.

Home Bible Reading Schedule

MAY 2000

1	John 1:18-28	16	John 6:27-33
2	Luke 24:12-35	17	John 6:35-39
3	John 1:35-51	18	John 6:40-44
4	John 3:1-15	19	John 6:48-56
5	Luke 10:38-42-11:27-28	20	John 15:17-16:2
		21	**John 5:1-16**
6	John 3:22-33	22	John 6:56-69
7	**John 20:19-31**	23	John 7:1-13
8	John 2:1-12	24	John 7:14-30
9	John 3:16-21	25	John 8:12-20
10	John 5:17-24	26	John 8:21-31
11	John 5:24-30	27	John 8:31-42
12	John 5:30-6:2	28	**John 4:5-42**
13	John 6:14-27	29	John 8:42-51
14	**Mark 15:43-16:8**	30	John 8:51-59
15	John 4:46-54	31	John 6:5-14

BIBLE STUDY

THE IMPORTANCE OF COURAGE

The third Sun[illegible]fter Pascha, dedicated to the Myrrh[illegible]ng Women (a blessed coincidence – it [illegible] Mother's Day!) tells us of the impor[illegible]f courage in the life of faith. The wome[illegible]who went so early in the morning to Jesus' tomb on the third day after His death on the Cross were very afraid – with good reason!

Jesus had been executed as a dangerous criminal against the Roman Empire! He had also been condemned by the religious authorities for blasphemy, an offense for which the law of Moses prescribed death! It was dangerous to be associated with Jesus. Besides that there was a heavy rock rolled against the opening of His tomb.

But the women showed remarkable courage! They remind us that courage does not consist of the absence of fear but of the determination, carried out by decisive action, to **do what must be done!** They did it. They set out without knowing how to solve the huge problems which stood in their way. They had faith. They were confident in the rightness of their goal – they wanted to show respect to their Beloved Teacher.

And all the problems were resolved! They found the stone rolled away and the guards were nowhere to be found. They came to the realization that Jesus had risen from the dead and became apostles to the Apostles in proclaiming this wonderful good news to them!

We, too, can be courageous by trusting ourselves and all our lives to God. Let us do what we **must** in order to live by His laws of love and compassion. We shall not be disappointed. He will help us and bless us through all our life on earth and beyond.

Fr. Ihor Kutash, Ph.D.

WINTER'S GRACE

General Douglas MacArthur put it so well when he said: "Nobody grows old by merely living a number of years. People grow old by deserting their ideals. You are as young as your self-confidence, as old as your fears; as young as your hopes, as old as your despair.

In the central place of every heart there is a recording chamber. So long as it receives messages of beauty, hope, cheer and courage, so long you are young. When the wires are all down and your heart is covered with the snows of pessimism and the ices of cynicism, then, and then only, are you grown old."

FUNDS

ALASKA FUND: Eugene Danko, Mary Smereka, Clifford Argue, Lois Bedder, Anna Polehinke, Sis Albers for health of her daughter Mia Tatyana, Kryalissa Albers, George and Elizabeth Sulin, Evancho & Sulin Families.

MISSION FUND: **Olga Peck,** Greg Mazur, Harry Boyko, Thomas Broslawik.

BOTH ALASKA AND MISSION FUNDS: George and Faith Malinich in memory of her dad George Billek, Anonymous, **MKZ** prayers for physical and mental health, Anna Tanchak, Ethel Watlock.